S1385-1
1/24/89

SEPTEMBER 1988

(For State's Fiscal Year July 1988 to June 1989)
DIVISION OF ECONOMIC SERVICES
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS - STATISTICAL REPORTS

Prepared by
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35-01-40-89-01-01

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - STATE FUNDS

Fiscal Year 1989 - 25.0% Of The Year

September 1988

CATEGORY	AVAILABLE FOR YEAR	DISBURSED/ ENCUMBERED	UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	DISBURSED FUNDS AS PERCENT OF AVAILABLE FUNDS
AFDC	$ 11,900,100	$ 2,847,346	$ 9,052,754	23.9%
General Assistance	1,670,000	380,367	1,289,633	22.8%
Emergency Assistance	217,000	43,400	173,600	20.0%
SSI Supplementation	685,100	252,876	432,224	36.9%
TOTAL	$ 14,472,200	$ 3,523,989	$ 10,948,211	24.4%

Source: Statement of Appropriations and Account Balances

RAMAC: FY - 1989

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MONTHLY STATISTICS

	July 1988	August	September	October	November	December
AFDC REGULAR:						
Payments	$1,979,545	$1,973,880	$1,995,387			
Cases	7,340	7,387	7,461			
Children	13,028	13,072	13,049			
Recipients	19,034	19,086	19,068			
AFDC-UP:						
Payments	$11,281	$11,895	$10,329			
Cases	39	43	39			
Children	91	89	80			
Recipients	157	157	141			
TOTAL AFDC:						
Payments	$1,990,826	$1,985,775	$2,005,716			
Cases	7,379	7,430	7,500			
Children	13,119	13,161	13,129			
Recipients	19,191	19,243	19,209			
GENERAL ASSISTANCE:						
Payments	$131,213	$128,311	$129,741			
Cases	1,055	1,048	1,062			
Children	470	454	487			
Recipients	1,277	1,271	1,304			
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:						
Payments	$24,092	$26,867	$29,264			
Cases	171	178	199			
FOOD STAMPS:						
Payments	$1,439,322	$1,448,237	$1,438,666			
Cases	10,642	10,689	10,633			
Recipients	28,734	28,860	28,710			
SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION:						
Payments	$60,302	$60,389	$61,140			
Cases-Recipients	498	502	503			
SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS ONLY:						
Payments	$1,525,700	$1,532,109	$1,528,419			
Cases-Recipients	7,497	7,543	7,513			
TOTAL SSI:						
Payments	$1,586,002	$1,593,098	$1,589,559			
Cases-Recipients	7,600	7,648	7,618			

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

	September 1988 Fiscal Year to Date	September 1987 Fiscal Year to Date	% Change
AFDC REGULAR			
Payments	$5,948,812	$5,876,145	1.2%
Cases	7,396	7,547	-2.0%
Payments/Case	$268.11	$259.52	3.3%
Children	13,050	13,417	-2.7%
Recipients	19,063	19,708	-3.3%
Payments/Recipient	$104.02	$99.39	4.7%
AFDC-UP			
Payments	$33,505	$37,047	-9.6%
Cases	40	46	-11.7%
Payments/Case	$276.90	$270.42	2.4%
Children	87	103	-16.1%
Recipients	152	182	-16.5%
Payments/Recipient	$73.64	$67.98	8.3%
TOTAL AFDC			
Payments	$5,982,317	$5,913,192	1.2%
Cases	7,436	7,593	-2.1%
Payments/Case	$268.16	$259.59	3.3%
Children	13,136	13,520	-2.8%
Recipients	19,214	19,890	-3.4%
Payments/Recipient	$103.78	$99.10	4.7%
GENERAL ASSISTANCE			
Payments	$389,265	$393,887	-1.2%
Cases	1,055	1,082	-2.5%
Payments/Case	$122.99	$121.35	1.4%
Children	470	489	-3.9%
Recipients	1,284	1,357	-5.4%
Payments/Recipient	$101.06	$96.78	4.4%

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE CUMULATIVE STATISTICS

	September 1988 Fiscal Year to Date	September 1987 Fiscal Year to Date	% Change
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE			
Payments	$80,223	$97,627	-17.8%
Cases	183	215	-14.9%
Payments/Case	$146.39	$151.59	-3.4%
FOOD STAMPS			
Payments	$4,326,225	$3,764,037	14.9%
Cases	10,655	10,221	4.2%
Payments/Case	$135.35	$122.75	10.3%
Recipients	28,768	27,597	4.2%
Payments/Recipient	$50.13	$45.46	10.3%
SSI STATE SUPPLEMENTATION			
Payments	$182,431	$167,682	8.8%
Cases-Recipients	501	464	8.1%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$121.38	$120.55	0.7%
SSI FEDERAL PAYMENTS			
Payments	$4,586,228	$4,305,390	6.5%
Cases-Recipients	7,518	7,407	1.5%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$203.35	$193.75	5.0%
TOTAL SSI			
Payments	$4,768,659	$4,473,072	6.6%
Cases-Recipients	7,622	7,487	1.8%
Payments/Case-Recipient	$208.55	$199.16	4.7%

NOTE: All cumulative statistics other than expenditures represent monthly averages.

COMPARATIVE CASE LOADS BY CATEGORY AND COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 1988

		Total State	New Castle	Kent	Sussex
AFDC Regular:	Cases	7,461	4,489	1,625	1,347
	Recipients	19,068	11,416	4,261	3,391
AFDC-UP:	Cases	39	26	7	6
	Recipients	141	94	22	25
Total AFDC:	Cases	7,500	4,515	1,632	1,353
	Recipients	19,209	11,510	4,283	3,416
General Assistance:	Cases	1,062	636	216	210
	Recipients	1,304	741	266	297
Emergency Assistance:	Cases	199	142	27	30
Food Stamps:	Cases	10,633	6,571	2,353	1,709
	Recipients	28,710	17,743	6,354	4,613
SSI State Supplementation:	Cases-Recipients	503	266	73	164
SSI Federal Payments:	Cases-Recipients	7,513	4,045	1,557	1,911
Total SSI:	Cases-Recipients	7,618	4,103	1,572	1,943

S 1385-1

DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Division of Planning, Research and Evaluation

MEMORANDUM

TO: Distribution

VIA: Linda Barnett

FROM: Steve Groff

DATE: December 29, 1988

RE: Highlights of Statistical Report on Public Assistance Grants Programs: July - September 1988.

TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE EXPENDITURES

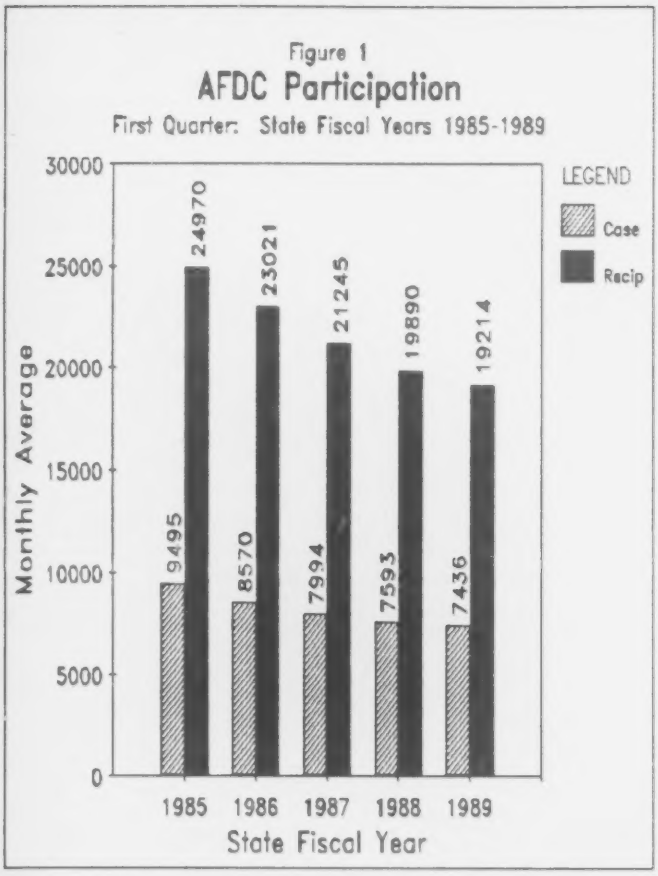
For the first time in the past five years, total public assistance expenditures increased during the first quarter of SFY 1989 as compared to the previous year. Over $15.5 million in benefits, including Federal and State funding, were paid to Delaware public assistance recipients during the first three months of SFY 1989. This represents a 6.2% increase ($904,874) from the same period in SFY 1988.

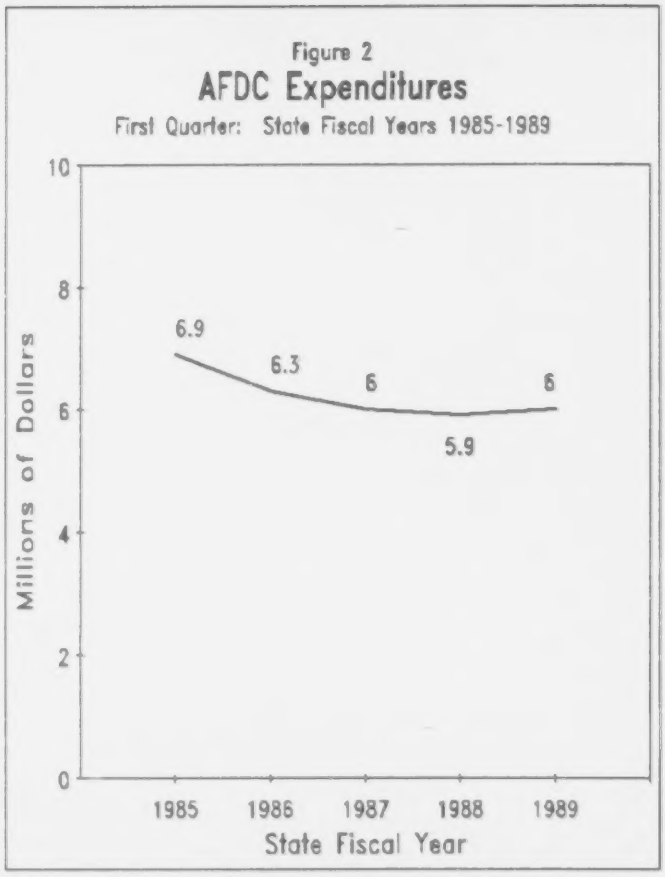
Food Stamp expenditures increased 14.9% ($562,188), while AFDC spending increased 1.2% ($69,125). In addition, SSI expenditures rose 6.6% ($295,587). These increases were slightly offset by reductions of 1.2% ($4,622) in the General Assistance program and 17.8% ($17,404) in the Emergency Assistance program.

These spending increases can largely be attributed to benefit increases combined with a slowing or reversal in declining caseloads. As a result, total public assistance spending returned to a level roughly equivalent to that experienced during the first quarter of SFY 1986.

AFDC PROGRAM

Average monthly participation in the AFDC program continued to decline in SFY 1989. The average monthly caseload dropped 2.1%, to a level of 7,436 cases. This was accompanied by a 3.4% decrease in the average monthly number of recipients; from 19,890 to 19,214. The magnitude of caseload reductions, however, has steadily declined over the past five years. Figure 1 illustrates this leveling off effect.





A 3% increase in the AFDC payment level which became effective in October 1987 is largely responsible for a 4.7% increase in the average payment per recipient. The average payment per recipient increased from $99.10 during the first quarter of SFY 1988 to $103.78 during the first quarter of SFY 1989.

Total AFDC expenditures of $6.0 million reflect a 1.2% increase over SFY 1988 spending. This represents a reversal of the downward trend experienced between SFY 1985 and SFY 1988. Rising expenditures can be attributed to the effect of annual benefit increases which are no longer offset by a significant decline in caseloads. Figure 2 reveals the slight upturn in AFDC expenditures to the SFY 1987 level of spending.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Reductions in General Assistance participation also appear to be leveling off. Declines in the average monthly number of cases and participants were much smaller during the first quarter of SFY 1989 than in previous years. The average monthly caseload of 1,055 represents a 2.5% reduction over SFY 1988. Between SFY 1985 and SFY 1988, however, the average monthly number of cases decreased 46.6%. Similarly, the average monthly number of recipients dropped 5.4% between SFY 1988 and SFY 1989. In contrast, the average monthly number of recipients decreased 56.6% between the first quarters of SFY 1985 and SFY 1988. These trends are illustrated in Figure 3.

Figure 3

General Assistance Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989

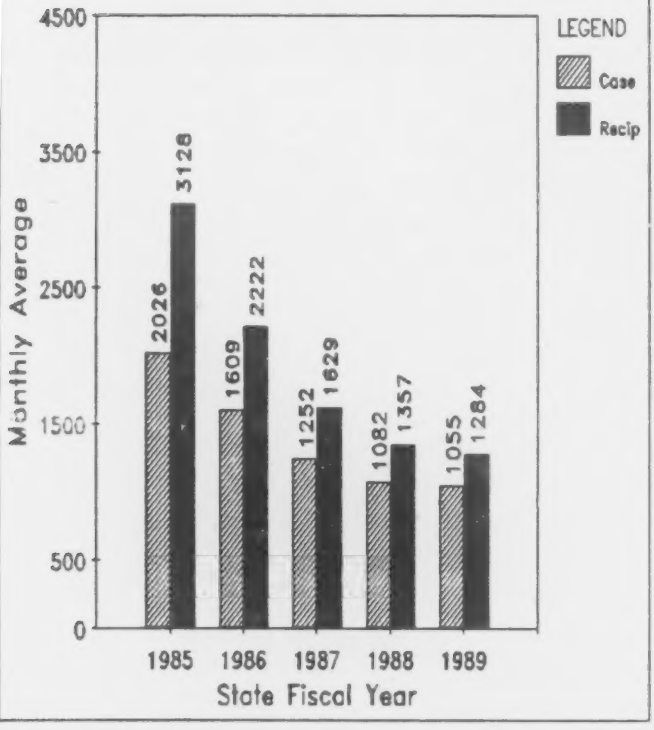
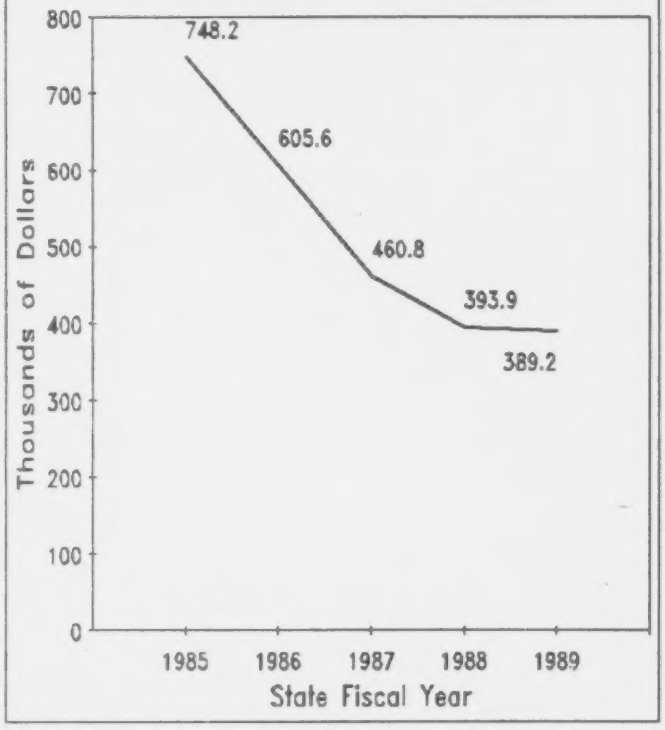


Figure 4

General Assistance Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989



The average payment per recipient increased from $96.78 to $101.06 (4.4%). This is the result of a 3% increase in the payment level which became effective in October 1987.

General Assistance expenditures for the first quarter of SFY 1989 totaled $389,265. This represents a 1.2% decrease over spending for the same period in SFY 1988. Reduced spending, despite the increase in benefit levels, can be explained by the offsetting effect of smaller caseloads. However, the net effect of the benefit increase and a relatively small reduction in participation resulted in substantially less savings than have been exhibited in previous years. Consequently, the downward trend in expenditures between SFY 1985 and SFY 1988 has leveled off as shown in Figure 4.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For the second straight year, Emergency Assistance expenditures declined during the first quarter of the State Fiscal Year (Figure 5). Total spending decreased 17.8% during this period (to $80,223). In addition, the average monthly caseload decreased 14.9%, to a level of 183 cases. This represents the lowest level of participation for this period during the past five years (Figure 6). Consequently, the average payment per case ($146.39) decreased 3.2%.

Figure 5

Emergency Assistance Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989

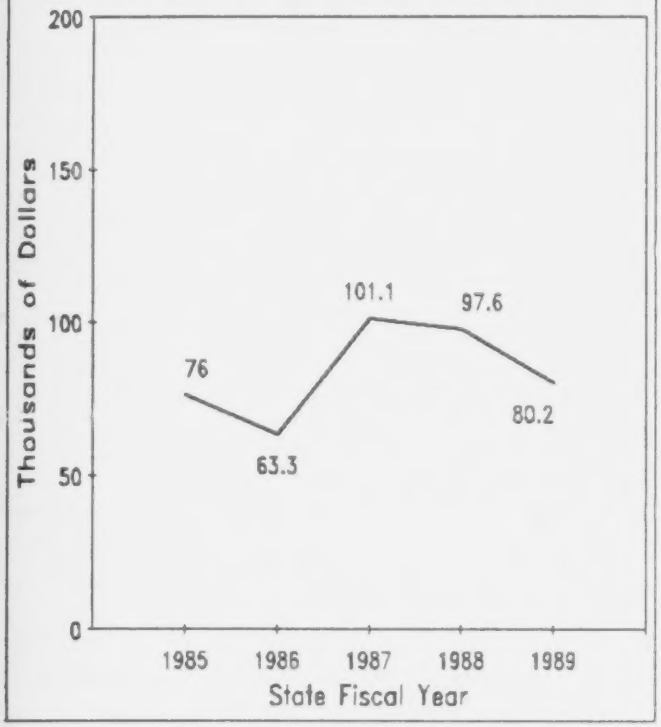


Figure 6

Emergency Assistance Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989

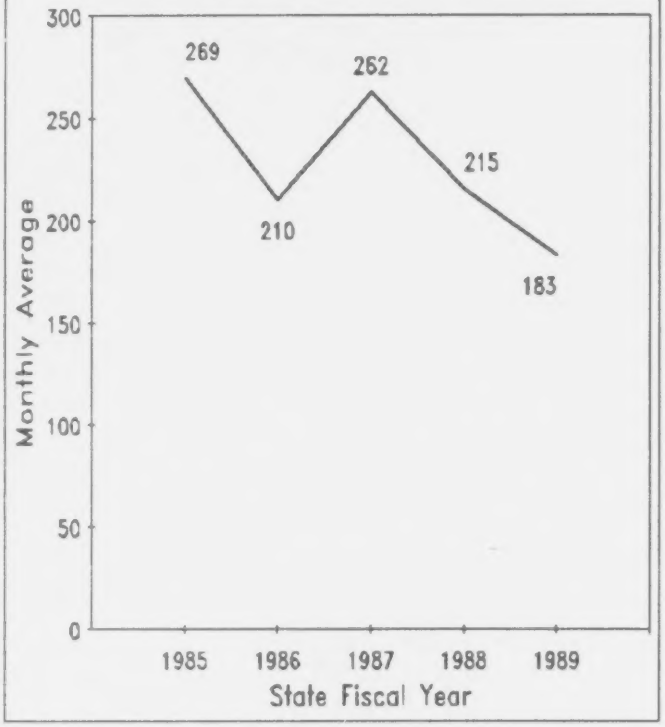


Figure 7

Food Stamp Participation

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989

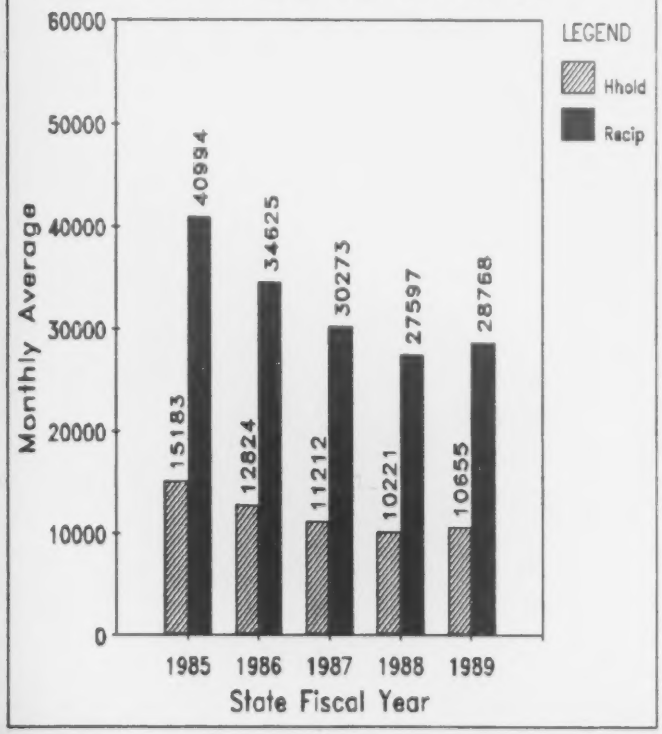
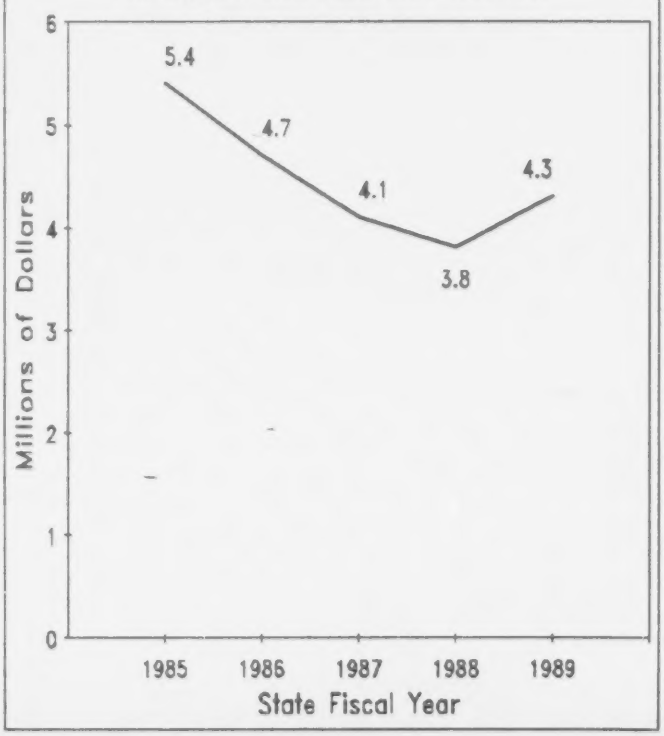


Figure 8

Food Stamp Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989



FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The Food Stamp program exhibited the most striking reversal of prior trends during the first quarter of SFY 1989. Between SFY 1985 and SFY 1988, first quarter enrollment decreased 32.7%. In contrast, both the average monthly number of cases (10,655) and the average monthly number of recipients (28,768) increased 4.2% during the first quarter of SFY 1989 as compared to the same period in SFY 1988. Food Stamp participation statistics for the past five years are presented in Figure 7.

In addition, the average cost per Food Stamp household increased from $122.75 to $133.35 (10.3%) during this period. This increase can be attributed to an increase in benefit levels of approximately 7% which became effective in October 1987.

The combined effect of increased participation and rising benefits resulted in a 14.9% increase in Food Stamp expenditures. Figure 8 reveals that first quarter spending of $4.3 million in SFY 1989 exceeded expenditures for the same period in SFY 1987.

SSI EXPENDITURES

Total SSI spending continued to increase during the first quarter of SFY 1989. Total SSI expenditures of $4.8 million represent a 6.6% increase over spending in first quarter of SFY 1988. This reflects a 1.8% increase in the average monthly number of recipients and a 4.7% increase in the average payment per recipient.

SSI Federal cases, cases receiving part or all of their benefits from Federal sources, constitute the major component of the SSI program and exhibited similar changes to those mentioned above. The average number of recipients increased 1.5%, while average payment per recipient rose 5.0% (reflecting a 4.2% increase in the Federal Benefit Rate effective in January 1988). As a result, total expenditures increased 6.5%.

SSI State Supplementation payments ($182,431) increased 8.8% during the first quarter of SFY 1989 as compared to the same period in SFY 1988. This represents the highest level of spending during the past five years (Figure 9). In contrast to the Federal SSI program, the rise in State Supplementation expenditures was primarily the result of increased enrollment. The average monthly number of recipients increased 8.1% during SFY 1989, to a level of 501 (Figure 10). In contrast, the average payment per recipient increased only 0.7% during this period.

Figure 9

SSI State Supplementation Expenditures

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989

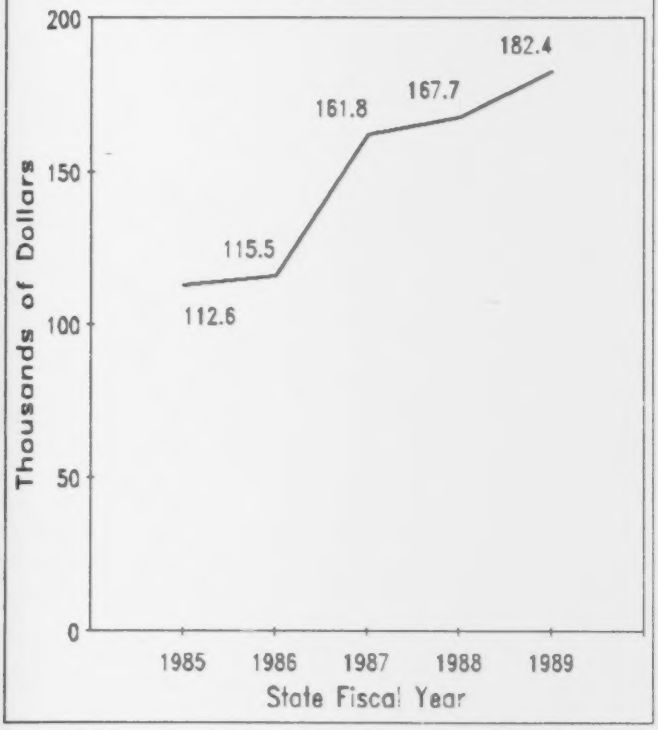
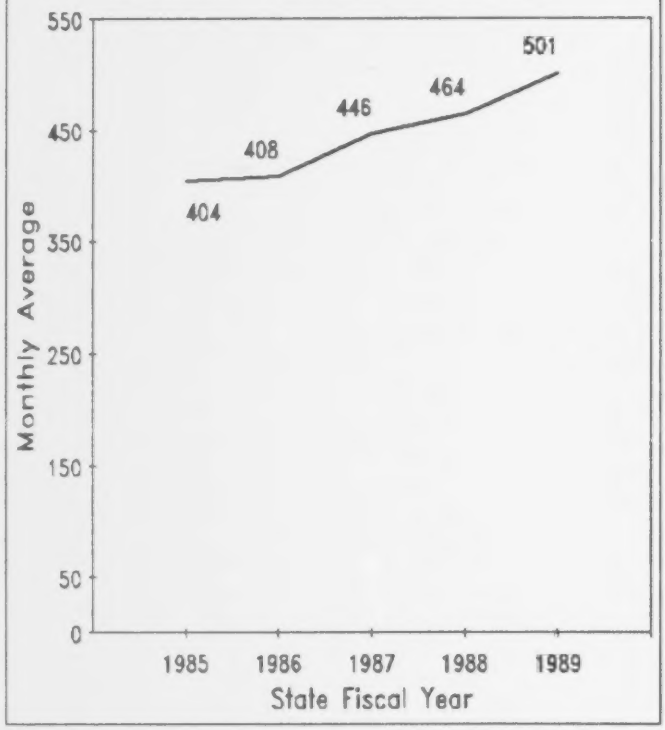


Figure 10

SSI State Supplementation Cases

First Quarter: State Fiscal Years 1985-1989



Attachment